



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **KC MAN SENTENCED FOR ASSAULTING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for assaulting federal law enforcement officers by attempting to ram them with his car.

**Darris P. Mack**, 19, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this afternoon to four years and nine months in federal prison without parole.

On May 26, 2005, **Mack** pleaded guilty to the charge contained in a March 2, 2005, federal indictment. **Mack** admitted that he was a passenger in a vehicle driven by co-defendant **Christopher J. Cooper**, 20, of Kansas City. **Mack** directed **Cooper** to flee from the police and directed **Cooper** where to drive and how to avoid the arresting officers.

**Cooper** was sentenced on Sept. 14, 2005, to seven years in federal prison without parole. **Cooper** pleaded guilty on May 12, 2005, to assaulting federal law enforcement officers. **Cooper** admitted that he was driving a Chevrolet Caprice when several law enforcement officers attempted to arrest him on Feb. 9, 2005.

According to Graves, officers had been conducting surveillance of **Cooper** and **Mack** in relation to a string of residential burglaries. **Cooper** and **Mack** entered then left several apartment complexes, Graves said, and when they were seen leaving an apartment building carrying several items that were placed in the Caprice, officers attempted to take them into custody. Several law enforcement vehicles were parked in order to block their exit while officers on foot attempted to arrest them.

When the officers approached the car, however, **Cooper** accelerated forward, nearly hitting several law enforcement officers, before crashing into a fire hydrant. **Cooper** then placed the vehicle in reverse and proceeded rapidly, again nearly hitting law enforcement officers before

crashing into a brick wall. Law enforcement officers converged on the vehicle, but **Cooper** raced forward again, narrowly missing several law enforcement officers. During this attempted arrest, Graves said, two law enforcement officers opened the car's doors in unsuccessful efforts to pull **Cooper** and **Mack** from the vehicle.

**Cooper** and **Mack** attempted to elude law enforcement officers until finally running over stop sticks near 35<sup>th</sup> and Wabash, Graves said. **Cooper** and **Mack** abandoned the vehicle and attempted to flee on foot, but were apprehended.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney K. Michael Warner. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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